

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Hungary

REPORT

SUBJECT

Hungarian Uprising

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report

on military units, equipment, casualties and estimations of manpower during the Hungarian uprising. The report contains a great deal of generalities and erroneous estimations, based on rumors

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ENCLOSURE

S-E-C-R-E-T

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Date: 28 December 1956

COUNTRY: Hungary

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a. Small-scale, unorganized street fighting in which small groups of unidentified Freedom Fighters in Budapest engaged in small arms action against the AVH troops. The weapons used by the Freedom Fighters were predominantly PPSH-1941 SMG's. The group was also armed with hand-grenades of a type unknown [redacted]. The action took place on the Rakoczi ut and Tisza Kalman Square. The Freedom Fighters attacked buildings occupied by the AVH and, after a short battle, took the buildings. Some of the AVH men were then hanged on the spot. Following this, the group moved to another part of the city in search of more AVH men.

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b. As far as [redacted] could determine, the AVH was also armed only with small arms; [redacted] MG fire coming from the buildings occupied by the AVH men.

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2. [redacted] the following information about Hungarian units:

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a. The Esztergom (N 47-47, E 18-45) city garrison fought against Soviet troops between 23 October and 1 November 1956. On approximately 1 November, [redacted] a convoy of armored vehicles moving through the city, and in the GO's jeep (GAZ-67), [redacted]

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[ ] two Hungarian officers from Esztergom [ ]  
 [ ] They were Lt. Col. Sandor Bazso, CO of a Hungarian Armored Division which had its caserne at Esztergom, and Major Adorjan (fnu). The two officers [ ] their armored unit had fought against the Soviets in Esztergom and that they had now come to Budapest for an unknown type of duty. The convoy consisted of approximately 40 T-34/85 tanks, five or six Soviet-made armored cars, and two or three GAZ-67 jeeps.

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- b. [ ] the people in Budapest that the Hungarian units located in the Gyorgy Kilian and Andrassy casernes had participated in fighting against the Soviets and AVH. He also heard that the AVH personnel were the only Hungarians who sided with the Reds.

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3. From 26 October to 4 November, [ ] about 25 to 30 Soviet and AVH dead in the streets of Budapest. On Hungaria Boulevard [ ] a large Soviet truck loaded with Soviet dead who had burned to death. [ ] unable to estimate the number but [ ] the truck was fully loaded. [ ] a total of about 300 dead Freedom Fighters in small groups of two or three or single corpses. [ ] the figure of 15,000 casualties among the Freedom Fighters during the initial fighting in Budapest. Soviet casualties were rumored to number 3,000 to 6,000 dead. [ ] no idea of casualties outside of Budapest.

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4. [ ] no first-hand information about Soviets who might have joined the Freedom Fighters. [ ] cases where Soviet tanks had run out of fuel and the crews pretended that they were joining the Freedom Fighters in order to save themselves. They would signal with a Hungarian national flag but would not leave the tank, and as soon as Soviet reinforcements appeared, they would then turn against the Hungarians. In other cases, while pretending to join the Freedom Fighters, they would wait until a large number of the latter group came out in the open and then cut them down with MG fire.

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5. [ ] the 13th District of Budapest was still in the hands of the Freedom Fighters. [ ] after the Soviet attack on Budapest on 4 November, many of the Hungarians, realizing that they could not effectively resist the Soviet troops, moved to the Pilis Mountains (N 47-41, E 18-52) nearby where they organized themselves into partisan groups with the intention of carrying out guerrilla warfare.

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6. [ ] the Soviets had moved 20 infantry divisions from the USSR into Hungary between 4 and 10 November and that they had crossed at Zahony (N 48-24, E 22-11). [ ] no Soviet troops being taken out of Hungary.

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7. [ ] no Hungarian army units cooperating with the Soviets.

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8. [ ] the biggest problem throughout the city was the food supply. There was practically no food to be bought; in fact most of the food stores were closed. [ ] some leaflets printed by the Kadar regime, assuring the people that large shipments of foodstuffs would arrive from the USSR in the near future. [ ] no one had faith in these promises and considered the leaflets pure Soviet propaganda.

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